

HRIC Executive Committee

Monday, March 20

NOTES

Next Meeting 2:30 Monday, April 17 at VDOL

HRIC Re-Authorization - Chip reported that the Senate Economic Development Committee has scheduled a meeting of the Conference Committee on H-109, the Council reauthorization bill from last year on Wednesday afternoon the 22nd. Rep. Kathy Keenan and two members of the House Commerce Committee will attend along with Senator Illuzzi and two members of the Senate Economic Development Committee. Chip and Pat have been invited to attend. The House Commerce Committee has also passed a new bill containing essentially the same language they passed last year in H-109. This will provide an alternative vehicle in case the differences on H-109 cannot be worked out. The new bill includes a name change to the Vermont Workforce Development Council, appointment of the ED by the Commissioner of VDOL in consultation with the HRIC, identification of the Council as a voice for employers on workforce issues and several other smaller changes. Chip and Pat subsequently attended this meeting. H-109 was reviewed, however there was no discussion about the language in the bill. A second meeting was agreed to, however no date was set.

Review of Revised Vision - It was agreed to schedule a half day meeting to work out a final draft of a new vision. The date was set as the morning of April 5 at VDOL. Pat, Mike, Jerry, Rick, Tim, and Chip agreed to attend and other Executive Committee members are welcome.

Executive Director Job Description - The draft job description was reviewed and a number of suggestions were made. Chip took notes and a revised draft was circulated the next day for final review by the Executive Committee. There was discussion about the ED's dual accountability to the Chair and the Commissioner. The ED would be accountable to both, but would be working most closely day to day with the Chair. We should set clear priorities for the Executive Director that will also be reflected in the Council's operating budget. The development of the annual plan would be the place to work this out and would provide a healthy tension between the agency and the business members.

Development of an Operating Plan for the HRIC - Rick suggested that we need an operating plan for the Council that executes the Governor's priorities. This would also be consistent with the vision statement. It could be developed in a one-day retreat or a series of shorter meetings. There was discussion about an operating plan vs a business plan, or a strategic plan. It was agreed that whatever it might be called it would provide sufficient detail to guide the Council's work. Chip pointed out that the plan should provide sufficient detail to guide the Executive Directors work.

Membership Update - Chip reviewed the latest membership spreadsheet and there was discussion of the current and potential future employer members. Chip pointed out those potential members who had confirmed their interest with a letter. He now has six of these and expects more over the next couple of weeks. Chip pointed out that in the past when more good candidates were presented than there were seats available, Governor Dean had had appointed several additional members. This allows for keeping the board at full strength while allowing for some attrition. It was agreed that we should present this option to

Governor Douglas. Chip shared several new names that were suggested by Jay Paterson who runs the VSC Business Extension Division in Williston. Members were encouraged to send Chip feedback on these individuals. Several members offered to make calls to the names remaining on the list to determine their interest and let Chip know.

HRIC Designee for Health Care Workforce Development Committee - It was agreed to designate Greg Voorheis as the HRIC representative for this committee until a new employer member can be designated. The Committee asked Chip to convey their thanks for his work on this committee over the past two years.

NGA Meeting Summary - As time was short, Chip reported only on the portion of the meeting that addressed the options for employment readiness certificates. Two models were presented at the meeting. Chip has materials and has scheduled a meeting with Vermont Adult Learning to discuss their interest in adopting such a credential.